

**Amendments to the CLAIMS**

1. (Original) A method for assessing risk on a project associated with a change proposal directed toward the project, the project being developed by a service provider for a client, said method comprising:

receiving the change proposal directed toward the project, the change proposal requesting at least one amendment to be performed to the project being developed by the service provider;

identifying, based on the at least one amendment request, at least one artifact of the project to be potentially affected upon the change proposal being adopted; and

generating at least one metric indicative of the potential effects on the project based on said identifying the at least one artifact, the at least one metric providing an objective risk assessment for the service provider to provide the client.

2. (Original) The method according to claim 1, wherein the at least one metric includes a statistical value.

3. (Original) The method according to claim 1, wherein said generating includes performing a regression analysis.

4. (Original) The method according to claim 1, wherein the service provider is at least one of a consultant and a contractor.

5. (Original) The method according to claim 1, wherein the project is at least one of a document and a product.

6. (Original) The method according to claim 1, wherein said identifying includes determining an artifact to be amended.

7. (Original) The method according to claim 6 wherein said identifying the at least one artifact includes counting descendants of the artifact to be amended.

8. (Original) The method according to claim 1, wherein the at least one metric includes a numerical representation of at least one of direct and indirect artifacts affected by the change proposal.

9. (Original) A system for assessing risk on a project associated with a change proposal directed toward the project, the project being developed by a service provider for a client, said system comprising:

means for receiving the change proposal directed toward the project, the change proposal requesting at least one amendment to be performed to the project being developed by the service provider;

means for identifying, based on the at least one amendment request, at least one artifact of the project to be potentially affected upon the change proposal being adopted; and

means for generating at least one metric indicative of the potential effects on the project based on said identifying the at least one artifact, the at least one metric providing an objective risk assessment for the service provider to provide the client.

10. (Original) A computer-readable medium having stored thereon sequences of instructions, the sequences of instructions, when executed by a processor, causes the processor to:

receive the change proposal directed toward a project being developed by a service provider for a client, the change proposal requesting at least one amendment to be performed to the project;

identify, based on the at least one amendment request, at least one artifact of the project to be potentially affected upon the change proposal being adopted; and

generate at least one metric indicative of the potential effects on the project based on said identifying the at least one artifact, the at least one metric providing an objective risk assessment for the service provider to provide the client.

11-28. (Canceled)

29. (New) The method according to claim 1, wherein the project is a requirements specification.

30. (New) The system according to claim 9, wherein the at least one metric includes a statistical value.

31. (New) The system according to claim 9, wherein the means for generating includes performing a regression analysis.

32. (New) The system according to claim 9, wherein the service provider is at least one of a consultant and a contractor.

33. (New) The system according to claim 9, wherein the project is at least one of a document and a product.

34. (New) The system according to claim 9, wherein the project is a requirements specification.

35. (New) The system according to claim 9, wherein the means for identifying includes determining an artifact to be amended.

36. (New) The system according to claim 35, wherein the means for identifying the at least one artifact includes counting descendants of the artifact to be amended.

37. (New) The system according to claim 9, wherein the at least one metric includes a numerical representation of at least one of direct and indirect artifacts affected by the change proposal.